



# THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF HADDONFIELD

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343 KING'S HIGHWAY EAST

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## EDITH HOELLE: A DESIRE TO HELP LED TO A FULL-TIME CAREER

Little did Edith Hoelle realize when she volunteered to serve on Woodbury's Tercentenary Celebration Committee that she was taking a step which would change her entire life. A housewife, actively engaged in supporting the activities of three outgoing, into-everything children, Mrs. Hoelle had no real desire to start a new career; she was seeking a constructive use for her interest in Jersey history.

Shortly after joining the Tercentenary Committee, Mrs. Hoelle was asked to write a series of articles about local history for the Woodbury paper. That led to her searching for new sources of information at the Gloucester County Historical Society. While gathering material for her weekly articles Mrs. Hoelle "practically lived" at the County Historical Society. There, too, she found another opportunity to pursue her interest in history and, at the same time, perform a constructive service to the community.

There was a wealth of material in the Society's library, but there was no one to catalog it, to sort it out and arrange it so as to be easily accessible to other history students. Mrs. Hoelle undertook this formidable assignment and is today the Gloucester County Historical Society librarian, working as a volunteer, five afternoons a week.

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### ANNUAL MEETING

Date: Tuesday,  
November 14, 1978

Time: 8:00 P.M.

Place: Friends Meeting House  
Auditorium  
Lake Street

*Light Refreshments will be  
served.*

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It was natural, during the Bicentennial observances for Mrs. Hoelle to want to assemble many of the isolated facts she had uncovered about the lives of the New Jersey signers of the Declaration of Independence. She knew that historians would write the biographies of the men *before* they made the fateful decision to sign the Declaration, but she wondered if anyone would document how profoundly their lives would be altered as a result. In doing the research Mrs. Hoelle discovered a large assortment of little known facts which she has woven together for her presentation of "What Happened to the New Jersey

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## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Although barely past its second anniversary, the Evening Women's Committee is now a thriving, well-established group. Helen Streeter, Ruby Oberst, Pat Lennon and Doris Worth, working with Dianne Snodgrass to form this new wing of the Society, are all to be congratulated on its success!

However, the future of the Society remains a challenge — the need for greater income to meet the rising costs of maintenance, dwindling resources for fund-raising projects and diminishing numbers of volunteers — all of these problems must be overcome if this organization is to continue at its present address.

All members are asked to help in any area which appeals to their particular interests. Volunteers are needed on all committees and greater support for Society projects is vital! Increased membership is an important factor in future planning. Encourage your friends and neighbors to participate in our activities.

There is a future for the past at *Greenfield Hall* but the efforts of every member will be needed to meet the challenge of the future.

CAROLINE B. MOODY

## REPORT FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Election of officers is to be held at the November meeting. The Nominating Committee submits the following slate of candidates for the positions up for election:

*For President:*

Mrs. James J. Lennon

*For First Vice President:*

Henry A. Watson

*For Corresponding Secretary:*

Mrs. Richard E. Traver

*For Treasurer:*

Miss Louise J. Recchino

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Term to Expire in 1981:

Mrs. James Driscoll

Mrs. Edward E. Krauss, Jr.

Mrs. Stephen Snodgrass

Douglas Rauschenberger

Ferris A. King

Respectfully submitted,

B. Dorothy Whitten, *Chairperson*

Mrs. Stephen Snodgrass

Mrs. Richard Carll

Blair M. Murphy

William E. Olver III

## A PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATION

In order to have a broader selection of candidates from whom to choose, the Nominating Committee made the following recommendation to the Board:

"That the Nominating Committee be appointed in the spring of the year, thus enabling them to contact possible nominees early in the year. The election of the slate will be in the fall at the Annual Membership meeting as presently stated in the bylaws."

## THINK VILLAGE FAIR

The signs of winter become more visible every day; June 1979 seems an eternity away. This is the traditional time for making jams, jellies and favorite preserves. How about setting aside a jar or two for the Baked Goods table at

next year's Village Fair. Home-made jams, jellies and relishes — with their rich colors and interesting textures — are a welcome attraction and will be gratefully accepted.

### CANDLELIGHT TOUR: A SOCIAL SUCCESS

A more perfect day for the Society's 13th Candlelight Tour, "Autumn in Haddonfield," could not be imagined . . . brilliant skies which enhanced the colors of fall foliage, comfortably crisp . . . an inviting day to see Haddonfield and some of its homes at their best.

During the morning and early afternoon of Tour Saturday, *Greenfield Hall* was literally a beehive of activity. Flower arrangements were delivered and set in place; a steady procession of cookie bakers arrived with their boxes and tins; the Lenharts came in to set the stage for an exhibit of old silver. These comings and goings were punctuated by the insistent ringing of the telephone.

By 4:00 P.M. the frantic pace of the earlier hours had given way to an air of expectancy. Soon the guests began to arrive, slowly at first, then in an ever-flowing stream, and by the 8:00 P.M. closing, the Keeping Room at *Greenfield Hall* was a joyous scene of people enjoying a glass of cider and exchanging animated comments about the opportunities they had to see so many unusual homes on such a pleasant evening.

Mrs. Ronald J. Mack, chairperson of the Tour, and the men and women who served on the Committee are to be congratulated. The 13th Candlelight Tour was indeed a social success — again one of the highlights of the Fall season in Haddonfield.

There is one disturbing note. Despite the excellence of the planning, the full support of the Society, and the perfection of the weather, income, after expenses were paid, was less than in previous years. Since the Society depends on the Candlelight Tour as a source of income, this was a disappointment. The Society's Board of Trustees is now trying to answer the question, "Why?" Should the day be changed to Sunday? Should the hours be extended? Should another type event be considered? What would it be?

### THE EVENING GROUP: NEW MEMBER DESSERT

On the Wednesday following the Candlelight Tour, *Greenfield Hall* was again the center of attraction as the Evening Group entertained their guests at a Dessert-Fashion Show. More than half the fifty people who attended were potential new members.

After sampling a variety of elegant desserts, spiced cider or cinnamon coffee served by Charlesanna Fallstick and her committee, members and their guests enjoyed an unusual fashion show. Four young women — Mickey Mack, Robin Spence, Joan Fuller and Claire Driscoll — modeled gowns from the Society's Costume collection. The clothes, of the period 1890 to 1930, included night dresses, afternoon gowns and the intricately tucked and flounced petticoats which were worn underneath, evening wear and wedding gowns. Between changes of costume, there was a display of men's nightshirts, dress shirts and a boy's lace-trimmed pique "Lord Fountelroy" suit, ca. 1894.

Assisting the models get in and out of their wardrobes — and since there were no zippers — just buttons, hooks and eyes and artfully concealed snaps, they needed help—were Noreen Hartel, Ruby Oberst and Doris Worth. Music was provided by an antique music box lent by Dianne Snodgrass.

The Evening Group will resume regular meetings in January — the 24th, at 8:00 P.M. Claire Driscoll, chairperson of the Group, extends an invitation to one and all the join the evening programs. "A warm welcome awaits you," she said, "and we think you'll enjoy the companionship, the relaxed atmosphere and the history-oriented presentations we plan for our meetings."

## GIFTS TO THE SOCIETY

*The list of acquisitions which normally accompanies the November Bulletin will be available at the meeting.*

The Society is grateful to its members and friends for their gifts which reflect not only life as it was lived in our community, but also the catholicity of tastes, interests, professions and avocations of its residents which add so much richness to our cultural heritage.

This richness is reflected in the variety of books and manuscripts given to the Society. These range from first editions to letters of advice from concerned parents, to account books and personal journals.

Thinking about gifts and acquisitions causes one to reflect a moment on the role the Historical Society plays in the community.

Our headquarters building, *Greenfield Hall*, built in 1841, is one of the few remaining authentic buildings. It is as solid, as handsome and as perfectly proportioned in its interior and exterior dimensions as when it was built. Housed in this fine, old building are priceless treasures — manuscript materials, furniture, china, silver, linens and clothing — all given by area residents who cared enough about their heritage to want to see some of it maintained for posterity. We are the custodians, the guardians of this heritage and it is our responsibility

as members of the Historical Society of Haddonfield to protect and preserve it, as well as to encourage others to appreciate and use the resources of the Society to enrich their own lives.

## FOR THE HOLIDAYS: CHRISTMAS CRAFTS

Need Christmas ornaments? Last minute gifts? Fresh holiday greens? All these items, and many more, will be sold at the *Christmas Craft Shop*.

On Saturday, December 9, the rooms of *Greenfield Hall* will have the flavor and aroma of Christmas when Edith Atkinson and the members of her committee open the doors to welcome shoppers to their *Christmas Craft Shop*. The hours will be from 2:00 to 9:00 P.M., and there will be a varied array of holiday articles.

## EDITH HOELLE (Continued)

Representatives After They Signed the Declaration?"

A life-time resident of Woodbury—she moved with her family when she was six months old — Mrs. Hoelle is librarian and trustee of the Gloucester County Historical Society and a member of the County Cultural and Heritage Commission. Those who have heard Mrs. Hoelle's talk unanimously agree there is so much to absorb they could easily listen a second time and still learn something new.